

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 01986 241842Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05 INR-10
H-01 CA-01 SAB-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 /050 W
-----122976 241846Z /43
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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6266

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STADIS////////////////////////////////

FOR L/HANSELL FROM AMBASSADOR JORDEN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PN, PBOR, CVIS
SUBJECT: DRAFT IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION: SPECIAL IMMIGRANT PRO-
VISION

4EF: A. STATE 74598; B. PNAMA 1826; C. STATE 63777;
D. PANAMA 1552

1. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS IN TAKING CARE OF THE
PROBLEM OF PANAMANIAN WHO HAVE COMMISSION JOB OFFERS.

2. I STILL HAVE ONE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM WITH YOUR PROPOSAL
IN REF A. AS I UNDERSTAND IT, CREATING A NEW CATEGORY OF
SPECIAL IMMIGRANTS WOULD ELIMINATE THE AMBASSADOR'S AND
THE DEPARTMENT'S DISCRETION AND WOULD ALLOW NO DETERMINA-
TION OF EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES. I AGREE THAT THERE
SHOULD BE SPECIAL LEGISLATION FOR ALIEN RESIDENTS OF THE
CANAL ZONE; AND YOUR PROPOSAL, PARAGRAPH 2 OF REF A, FITS
THE BILL. BUT THE PROPOSAL IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF REF A SEEMS
TO BE A STEP BACKWARD FROM THE PROPOSAL IN PARA 4 OF REF
C, IN THAT DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY HAS BEEN CUT OUT. IT
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SEEMS BEST TO ME TO KEEP THE 1101(A)(27) (E) AUTHORITY
FOR ALL EXCEPT THE ZONE RESIDENTS.

3. IN ORDER TO ASSURE SECRETARY ALEXANDER THAT THIS AUTHORITY
WILL BE USED LIBERALLY FOR NON-US-CITIZEN PANCANAL
RETIRES, I WOULD PROPOSE CREATION OF A MISSION PANEL
TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON PETITIONS OF FORMER EMPLOYEES

WHO BELIEVE THEY QUALIFY UNDER THE "EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES" PROVISION OF THE LAW. I WOULD TENTATIVELY SUGGEST THAT IT COULD BE MADE UP OF A MEMBER FROM OUR CONSULAR SECTION, A PERSON TO BE NAMED BY THE CANAL COMMISSION AND A PERSON TO BE NAMED BY THE CINC. PETITIONERS WHO COULD QUALIFY FOR IMMIGRANT CLASSIFICATION UNDER OTHER "NON-SPECIAL" PROVISIONS OF THE LAW WOULD BE EXPECTED TO DO SO. THIS, WE THINK, WOULD TAKE CARE OF 85-90 PERCENT OF THE CASES. IN THE OTHER CASES THE PANEL WOULD TAKE A FAVORABLE POSITION IF THE PETITIONERS' STATUS WOULD LIKELY BE ENHANCED BY IMMIGRATION TO THE US.

4. THE FACT THAT A RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF PERSONS WOULD COME UNDER THE SPECIAL CATEGORY SHOULD MAKE THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL MORE PALATABLE IN CONGRESS. YET THE RIGHT TO EMIGRATE TO THE U.S. WOULD NOT BE SUBSTANTIALLY LEYS THAN UNDERHYOUR PROPOSAL IN REF A. THE OTHER ADVANTAGE IS, OF COURSE, THAT WE HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF AVOIDING AN EMIGRATION PSYCHOLOGY HERE.

5. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DISCUSSING WITH THE VISA OFFICE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE OFFICES IN THE DEPARTMENT THE IMPLICWTIONS OF THIS PROPOSAL FOR WORK-LOAD AND IMMIGRATION POLICY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BE ASSURED THAT THE CONSULATE WILL RECEIVE ANY NEW POSITIONS FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HANDLING ADDITIONAL WORKLOAD WHICH MIGHT ARISE FROM SUCH PROVISIONS.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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